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Application No. 10/776,018

Filed: 2/10/2004

TC Art Unit: 3673

Confirmation No.: 9076

REMARKS

Claims 4, 7, 20 and 24 are currently amended. Claims 2-3, 6, and 19 remain as previously amended and claim 27 remains as previously presented. New claims 29-32 have been added.

Claims 1, 5, 8-18, 21-23, 25-26 and 28 are cancelled. Of these, claims 1, 15 and 18 were previously cancelled and claims 5, 8-14, 16-17, 21-23, 25-26 and 28 are cancelled currently herein.

Claims 2-4, 6-7, 19-20, 24, 27 and 29-32 are pending.

Applicant has amended claim 4 to state more clearly that the detachable connecting means of claim 24 comprise hook and loop connections. Claim 7 is currently amended to depend without redundancy from claim 24. Claim 20 is currently amended to replace "and/or" by "or".

Claim 24 is currently amended by incorporating the limitations of previous claim 21, with some editing to remove redundancy and improve readability. Note, however, in the claim 21 limitations that have been moved into claim 24, the word "only" has been removed from the term "the first and second foam body are detachably connectable to each other only via the covering."

Claim 24 is further amended herein by removing the previous limitation of claim 24 wherein the seat cushion comprises foam material received in a cavity between said first and second foam bodies, wherein the cavity is provided in the first foam body or in the second foam body. This limitation removed from claim 24 as currently amended now appears in new claim 29, which depends from claim 24.

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Claim 24 has been amended also by removing the feature that the second foam body is provided with a covering, which feature is moved into new dependent claim 30.

New dependent claim 31 states the feature that the covering of the second foam body is provided with at least a part of the detachable connecting means.

New independent claim 32 is substantially similar to independent claim 24, except that new claim 31 has been rewritten and restructured to improve clarity and readability relative to claim 24.

All the foregoing amendments are supported by the specification and/or the language of the original claims.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner has rejected claim 10 under Section 112. Claim 10 is cancelled herein.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner has rejected claims 2-14, 19-20, and 24-26 as being unpatentable over Ogawa in view of Hall and Porter. Claims 5, 8-14, 16-17, 21-23, 25-26 and 28 are cancelled currently herein. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection as to pending claims 2-4, 6-7, 19-20, 24, 27 and 29 in light of the following.

The Examiner has indicated that claims 21-23 as previously presented would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and intervening claims. Claim 21 previously depended from independent claim 24.

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Therefore, Applicant has amended claim 24 mainly to include the limitations of claim 21, with clarifying edits. A previous limitation of claim 24 has been removed wherein the seat cushion comprises foam material received in a cavity between said first and second foam bodies, wherein the cavity is provided in the first foam body or in the second foam body. This limitation removed from claim 24 as currently amended now appears in new claim 29, which depends from claim 24.

Ogawa, Porter and Hall, individually or in combination, do not teach or suggest the features and limitations that exist in Applicant's claim 24 as currently amended. Therefore, independent claim 24 is allowable. All the remaining claims depend directly or indirectly from claim 24 and are therefore also allowable.

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SUMMARY

Claims 2-4, 6-7, 19-20, 24, 27 and 29-32 are pending. Claims 4, 7, 20 and 24 are currently amended. Claims 2-3, 6, and 19 remain as previously amended and claim 27 remains as previously presented. New claims 29-32 have been added. Claims 1, 5, 8-18, 21-23, 25-26 and 28 are cancelled.

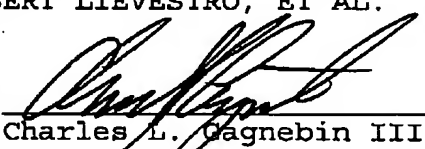
These Amendments put the claims into proper form for further examination and/or allowance. Kindly calculate any additional fees required based on the amended claims.

The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned attorney to discuss any matter which would expedite allowance of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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By


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